

6. Takes note of Governing Council decision 10/14 of 31 May 1982 on programme matters, comprising seven specific sections, and in this context:

(a) Takes note of the progress report on co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States,<sup>151</sup> reiterates the terms of its resolution 34/186 of 18 December 1979 as a whole, and requests the Governing Council to submit a further progress report on its implementation to the General Assembly at its fortieth session;

(b) Takes note of the conclusions of the study of the legal aspects concerning the environment related to offshore mining and drilling within the limits of national jurisdiction, made by the Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law,<sup>152</sup> and of the views of the Governments thereon,<sup>153</sup> recommends that Governments should consider the guidelines contained in the conclusions when formulating national legislation or undertaking negotiations for the conclusion of international agreements for the prevention of pollution of the marine environment caused by offshore mining and drilling within the limits of national jurisdiction, and requests the Governing Council to submit to the General Assembly at its fortieth session a progress report on the use made of those conclusions;

(c) Takes note of the endorsement by the Governing Council, in section III of its decision 10/14, of the World Soils Policy,<sup>154</sup> and invites Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other appropriate international organizations to take into account the objectives of the World Soils Policy in formulating relevant national policies and programmes of work;

(d) Takes note of the action agreed by the Governing Council, in section I of its decision 10/14, on the future work with regard to the potential socio-economic impact of increased carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere;

7. Also takes note of Governing Council decision 10/20 of 31 May 1982 on expansion and implementation of the regional seas programme;

8. Further takes note of Governing Council decision 10/7 of 28 May 1982 on the impact of *apartheid* on the environment aimed at promoting public awareness of the plight of the victims of *apartheid*;

9. Expresses the view that arrangements for the regional presence of the United Nations Environment Programme should take fully into account the specific situations and needs of the various regions, in accordance with Governing Council decision 10/2 of 31 May 1982 on the regional presence of the Programme;

10. Expresses its appreciation to Governments that have contributed to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, particularly those that have maintained or increased the real value of their contributions;

11. Expresses its concern over the continued decline, in real terms, of the resources available to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and the increasing trend towards late payment of pledged contributions, reiterates its appeal to Governments to increase their contributions to the Fund and appeals to all Governments that have not yet pledged contributions to the Fund for the years 1982 and 1983 to do so as soon as possible.

*113th plenary meeting  
20 December 1982*

<sup>151</sup> A/37/396 and Corr.1, annex.

<sup>152</sup> See UNEP/GC.9/5/Add.5, annex III.

<sup>153</sup> See UNEP/GC.10/5, annex I.

<sup>154</sup> See UNEP/GC.10/5/Add.4, annex III.

## **37/218. Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification**

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 32/172 of 19 December 1977, 33/89 of 15 December 1978, 34/184 and 34/185 of 18 December 1979 and 35/73 of 5 December 1980, dealing with the various aspects of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,<sup>155</sup>

Taking note of the relevant section of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth session,<sup>156</sup> in particular section VII of Council decision 10/14 of 31 May 1982<sup>157</sup> on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Taking into account paragraphs 8 to 10 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/56 of 29 July 1982,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/73,<sup>158</sup>

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

2. Expresses its deep concern at the slow implementation of the Plan of Action owing to the lack of adequate financial resources;

3. Urges all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental and all other organizations to augment their efforts to prevent and combat desertification in order to accelerate progress in implementing the recommendations of the Plan of Action for immediate initial action;

4. Encourages Governments of countries affected by desertification to accord the combating of desertification high priority in their development plans and in their requests for development assistance;

5. Calls upon the Consultative Group for Desertification Control to intensify further its efforts to assist the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the Plan of Action.

*113th plenary meeting  
20 December 1982*

## **37/219. Session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme**

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 35/74 of 5 December 1980 and 36/189 of 17 December 1981, in which it decided to convene a session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at Nairobi from 10 to 18 May 1982 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972,

<sup>155</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, Nairobi, 29 August-9 September 1977 (A/CONF.74/36), chap. I.

<sup>156</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part two, chap. II, sect. G.

<sup>157</sup> Ibid., part two, annex.

<sup>158</sup> A/37/395, annex.

and having considered the report of the Governing Council on its session of a special character,<sup>159</sup>

*Reaffirming* its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, in which it declared itself convinced of the need for prompt and effective implementation by Governments and the international community of measures designed to safeguard and enhance the environment for the benefit of present and future generations of man,

*Taking into account* the need to strengthen international co-operation in the field of the environment, particularly to deal with the most serious environmental problems of developing countries, in line with the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,<sup>160</sup>

*Convinced* that the principles of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment<sup>161</sup> are as valid today as they were in 1972 and, together with the Nairobi Declaration adopted at the session of a special character,<sup>162</sup> provide basic guidance for effective and sustained progress in the protection and enhancement of the environment,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its session of a special character;<sup>159</sup>

2. *Expresses its appreciation* of the positive manner in which Governments responded to its invitation to participate in the session at the highest political level;

3. *Recognizes* that the session of a special character represented a unique opportunity for Governments to re-emphasize their continued commitment and support to the cause of the environment and the United Nations Environment Programme;

4. *Endorses* the Nairobi Declaration,<sup>162</sup> in which the world community, *inter alia*, reaffirmed its commitment to the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment<sup>161</sup> and the Action Plan for the Human Environment<sup>163</sup> adopted at Stockholm, as well as its support for strengthening the United Nations Environment Programme as the major catalytic instrument for global environmental co-operation, and urged all Governments and peoples of the world to discharge their historical responsibility to ensure that the planet Earth is passed over to future generations in a condition that guarantees a life in human dignity for all;

5. *Further endorses:*

(a) The assessment by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its session of a special character of the major achievements and failures in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Human Environment and its conclusions that fair to good progress had been made in implementing some of the elements of the Action Plan while, in respect of other elements, the record had been very modest;

(b) The identification at the above-mentioned session of:

(i) the perceptions of environmental issues that had evolved over the past decade;

(ii) The major environmental trends, potential problems and priorities for action by the United Nations system, during the period 1982-1992, co-ordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme in accordance with its catalytic mandate and role;

(c) The basic orientation of the United Nations Environment Programme for 1982-1992, as recommended by the Governing Council at the above-mentioned session;

(d) The conclusions reached at the above-mentioned session with respect to the institutional arrangements for the United Nations Environment Programme;

6. *Invites* all Governments, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations to ensure that the priorities for action, agreed upon by the Governing Council at its session of a special character in section III of its resolution I,<sup>164</sup> are accorded high priority within their respective programmes at both the national and regional levels;

7. *Also invites* the governing bodies of the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to integrate the major environmental trends over the next ten years effectively in their action plans and, on the basis of those trends, in close co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme, to draw up appropriate measures for environmental protection, particularly in developing countries, with due regard to available resources;

8. *Reiterates* the importance it attaches to the development of the Environmental Perspective to the year 2000 and beyond, and requests the Governing Council at its eleventh session to make, on the basis of a report by the Executive Director, concrete recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1983, on the modalities for preparing the Environmental Perspective;

9. *Supports* the view expressed at the session of a special character that the human environment would greatly benefit from an international atmosphere of peace and security, free from the threat of any war;

10. *Emphasizes* that the implementation of the priorities for action recommended by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its session of a special character requires adequate financial resources and, in view of this, appeals to all Governments, particularly of developed countries, to respond positively and increase their contribution to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme.

113th plenary meeting  
20 December 1982

### 37/220. Study on financing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 32/172 of 19 December 1977, 33/89 of 15 December 1978, 34/184 of 18 December 1979 and 36/191 of 17 December 1981, dealing with the implementation and financing of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,<sup>155</sup>

*Taking note* of the relevant section of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth session,<sup>165</sup> in particular paragraphs 2 and 4 of section VII of Governing Council decision 10/14

<sup>159</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25)*, part one.

<sup>160</sup> Resolution 35/56, annex.

<sup>161</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and Corr.1), chap. I.

<sup>162</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25)*, part one, annex II.

<sup>163</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>164</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25)*, part one, annex I.

<sup>165</sup> *Ibid.*, part two.